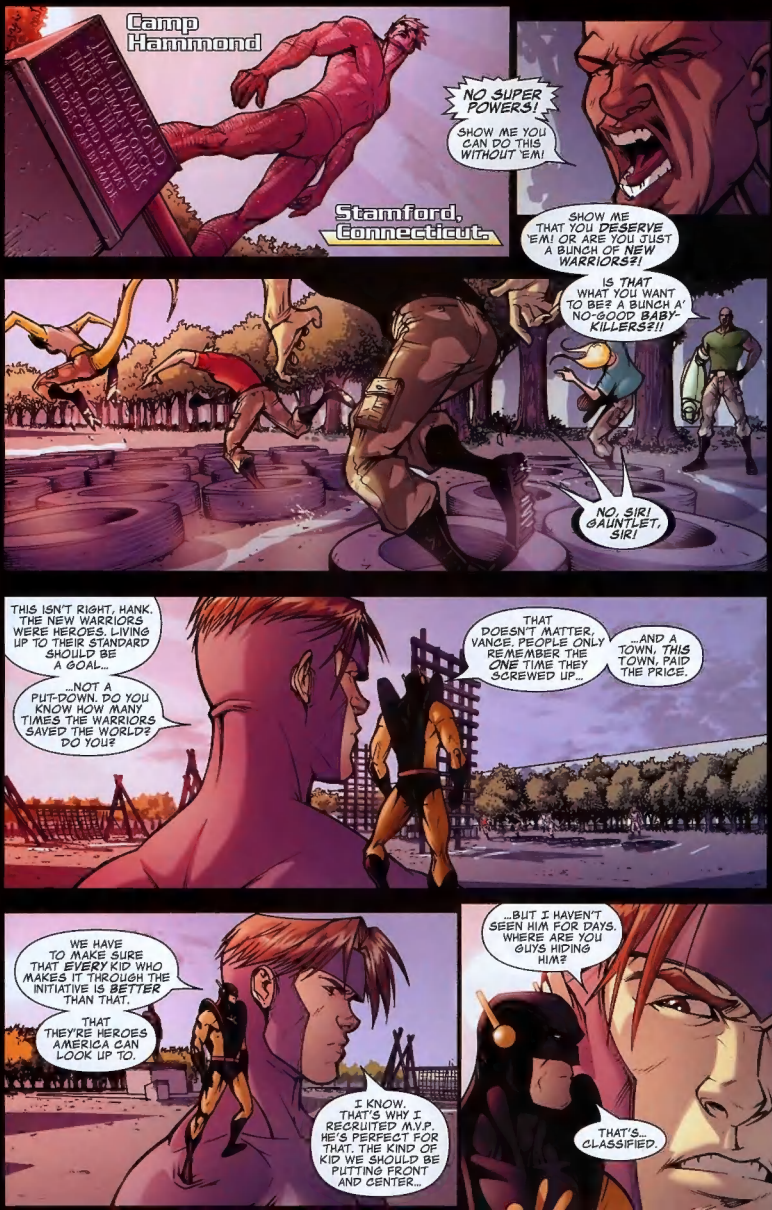

Camp Hammond
JIM HAMMOND
FIRST OF THE NEW WARRIORS
NO SUPER POWERS!
SHOW ME YOU CAN DO THIS WITHOUT 'EM!
Stamford, Connecticut
SHOW ME THAT YOU DESERVE 'EM! OR ARE YOU JUST A BUNCH OF NEW WARRIORS?!
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT TO BE? A BUNCH A' NO-GOOD BABY-KILLERS?!!
NO, SIR! GAUNTLET, SIR!
THIS ISN'T RIGHT, HANK. THE NEW WARRIORS WERE HEROES. LIVING UP TO THEIR STANDARD SHOULD BE A GOAL...
...NOT A PUT-DOWN. DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY TIMES THE WARRIORS SAVED THE WORLD? DO YOU?
THAT DOESN'T MATTER, VANCE. PEOPLE ONLY REMEMBER THE ONE TIME THEY SCREWED UP...
...AND A TOWN, THIS TOWN, PAID THE PRICE.
WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERY KID WHO MAKES IT THROUGH THE INITIATIVE IS BETTER THAN THAT.
THAT THEY'RE HEROES AMERICA CAN LOOK UP TO.
I KNOW. THAT'S WHY I RECRUITED M.V.P. HE'S PERFECT FOR THAT. THE KIND OF KID WE SHOULD BE PUTTING FRONT AND CENTER...
...BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM FOR DAYS. WHERE ARE YOU GUYS HIDING HIM?
THAT'S... CLASSIFIED.

DAMN IT, KOMODO, HE SAID NO POWERS! SLOW DOWN. YOU'RE MAKING THE REST OF US LOOK BAD.
SUCK ON IT, HARDBALL.
I'M PART REPTILE. YOU THINK I CAN JUST TURN THAT OFF?
THANKS A LOT! I HATE BUSTING MY HUMP, BUT I AM SO NOT WASHING OUT OF THIS PROGRAM!
I JUST GOT MY POWERS, AND THERE'S NO WAY I'M LETTING UNCLE SAM STOP ME FROM USING THEM!
THEY CAN DO THAT? THEY CAN REALLY DO THAT?
WHAT SHOW ARE YOU WATCHING, TRAUMA? OF COURSE THEY CAN.
YOU SAW WHAT THEY DID TO ARMORY.
WHAT? THEY TOOK HER MAGIC DOOHICKEY AWAY. BIG DEAL.
SO SHE'S NORMAL AGAIN. WHO CARES? HOW CAN YOU GUYS EVEN THINK ABOUT HER WHEN...
...WHEN M.V.P.'S DEAD. THAT COULD'VE BEEN ANY OF US! I CAN'T GET THAT OUTTA MY HEAD...
CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT IT...
CLOUD 9? STOP! PLEASE, YOU...
...ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM.
YOU HAVE TO...
YOU...

OH GOD! MAKE IT STOP!
THIS IS WHAT'S WAITING FOR YOU. FOR ALL OF YOU. ONE LUCKY SHOT. ONE SMALL MISTAKE.
AND THEN YOU'RE DEAD. DEAD. DEAD. DEAD!
TRAUMA, CUT IT OUT! THIS IS NOT COOL, MAN!
WHAT'S HE DOING?! NO ONE'S SUPPOSED TO KNOW! SHUT HIM UP!
I'LL HANDLE TRAUMA. YOU LOOK AFTER THE KIDS. SAY ANYTHING. CALM THEM DOWN.
BUT THE SUBJECT OF M.V.P. IS OFF-LIMITS.
WHAT? HANK, THE WHOLE REASON I'M HERE IS TO BE THEIR YOUTH COUNSELOR. IF THE CADETS CAN'T TALK TO ME ABOUT EVERYTHING--
IT'S OFF-LIMITS! AND THAT'S AN ORDER!
FINE! BUT WE'RE NOT DONE HERE, PYM.
DON'T I KNOW IT. TRAUMA, YOU'RE WITH ME! NOW!
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?! WHY ON EARTH WOULD YOU PULL A STUNT LIKE THAT?!
SHE WAS SO AFRAID, I COULDN'T HELP IT. COULDN'T STOP THE CHANGE.
THAT'S HOW MY POWER WORKS. I CAN'T CONTROL IT.
DON'T YOU KNOW WHAT THAT'S LIKE? TO LOSE CONTROL? WAIT...
...YOU DO, DON'T YOU?

Ka-Tech 10101001
ALL RIGHT, VON BLITZSCHLAG, WHAT'S THE EMERGENCY?
HERR PYM, SECRETARY GYRICH. I HAFF DOUBLE-CHECKED ALL OUR DATA. UND MY FINDINGS ARE CORRECT.
THIS BOY, THIS M.V.P., HE VAS DIE UBERMENSCH. EVERY CELL IN HIS BODY IZ PERFECTION.
BIG SURPRISE. THE KID'S GREAT-GRANDFATHER WAS ABRAHAM ERSKINE, THE GUY WHO CREATED THE SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM--
NEIN, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. UNLIKE YOUR KAPITAN AMERIKA, THIS BOY EARNED THE OPTIMUM HUMAN BODY THROUGH BLOOD UND SVEAT.
THAT VAS HIS SECRET. THE TRUTH. HE HAD NO SUPER POWERS.
VHATEVER HAPPENS, VE MUST NOT RETURN, DESTROY, OR RELEASE THIS CORPSE!
Ka-Tech 10101001
Bearing
THE THINGS VE COULD DO VITH THIS GENETIC MATERIAL, IT BOGGLES THE MIND!
STOP! STOP RIGHT THERE!
THERE HAS TO BE AN ETHICAL LINE IN THE SAND. THERE HAVE TO BE BOUNDARIES WE JUST DON'T CROSS.
GET REAL, PYM. WE PROMISED THIS COUNTRY A FIFTY-STATE INITIATIVE, A SUPER-TEAM IN EVERY STATE.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT I INTEND TO FILL THAT ORDER.
AND IF THAT MEANS CUTTING CORNERS AND CROSSING YOUR PRECIOUS BOUNDARIES? SO BE IT.
THIS HAS GONE TOO FAR, I SWEAR. I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S WORSE, THAT I'M IN BED WITH YOU, GYRICH...
...OR THIS FORMER NAZI!

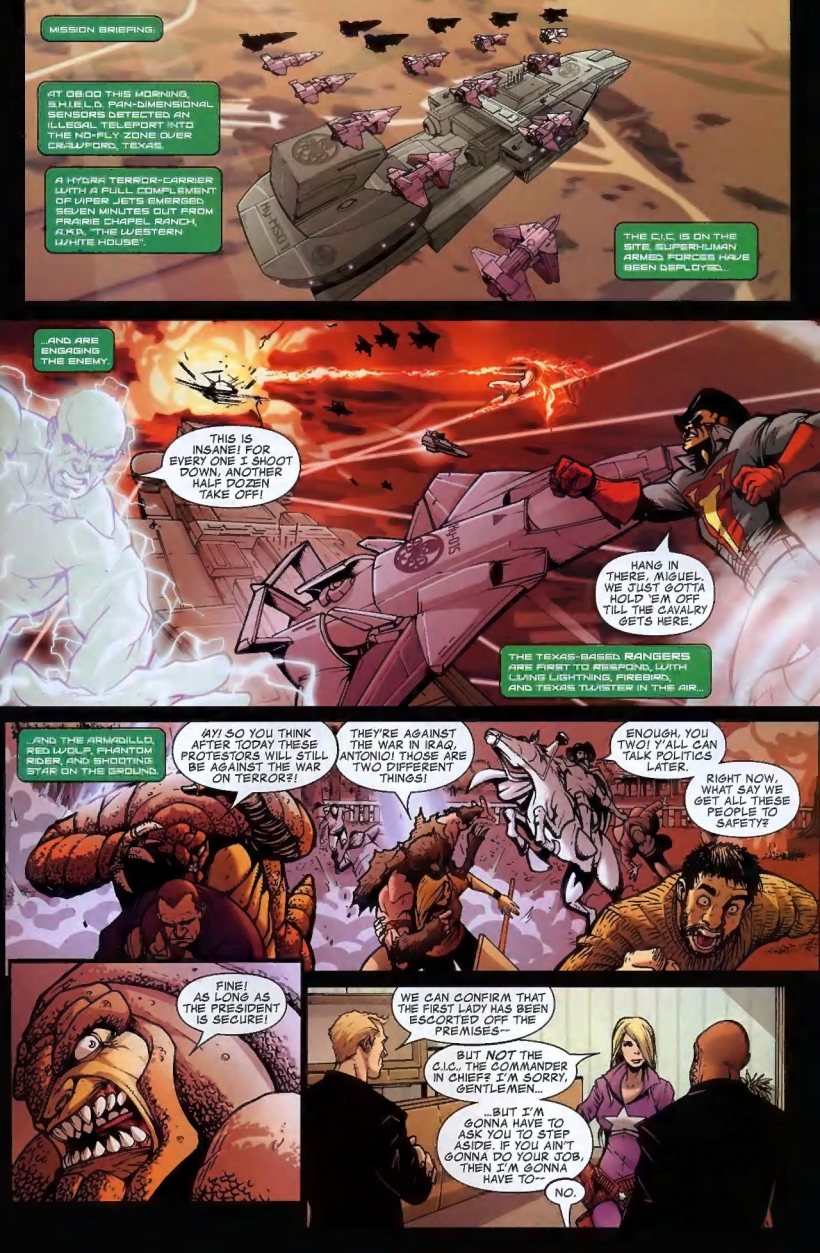
HERR PYM, YOU VOUND ME.
JA. I VAS A NAZI—UND A SUPER-VILLAIN. BUT NOTHING NOTEVORTHY, NOTHING VHICH COULD HOLD A CANDLE TO YOU.
WHAT?

HERR DOKTOR, YOU ARE THE MAN WHO CREATED ULTRON!
THE AVENGER WHO CONSTRUCTED SALVATION I, A GIANT ROBOT, TO ATTACK HIS OWN FRIENDS.
UND MY FAVORITE...

...THE GENETICIST WHO HELPED ENGINEER THIS BEAUTIFUL, BLONDE-HAIRED, BLUE-EYED CLONE!
THE TEUTONIC GOD WHO KILLED YOUR BLACK GOLIATH!
MEIN GOTT, DON'T HATE ME, HERR PYM. FOR I AM YOUR GREATEST FAN!

SHUT UP! SHUT THE HELL UP BEFORE I--

SCRAMBLE! SCRAMBLE! ALL INITIATIVE MEMBERS FALL IN!
FULL ALERT
WE HAVE A PRIORITY ONE EMERGENCY! FALL IN!


MISSION BRIEFING.
AT 08:00 THIS MORNING, S.H.I.E.L.D. PAN-DIMENSIONAL SENSORS DETECTED AN ILLEGAL TELEPORT INTO THE NO-FLY ZONE OVER CRAWFORD, TEXAS.
A HYDRA TERROR-CARRIER WITH A FULL COMPLEMENT OF VIPER JETS EMERGED SEVEN MINUTES OUT FROM PRAIRIE CHAPEL RANCH, A.K.A. "THE WESTERN WHITE HOUSE".
THE C.I.C. IS ON THE SITE. SUPER-HUMAN ARMED FORCES HAVE BEEN DEPLOYED...
...AND ARE ENGAGING THE ENEMY.
THIS IS INSANE! FOR EVERY ONE I SHOOT DOWN, ANOTHER HALF DOZEN TAKE OFF!
HANG IN THERE, MIGUEL. WE JUST GOTTA HOLD 'EM OFF TILL THE CAVALRY GETS HERE.
THE TEXAS-BASED RANGERS ARE FIRST TO RESPOND, WITH LIVING LIGHTNING, FIREBIRD, AND TEXAS TWISTER IN THE AIR...
...AND THE ARMADILLO, RED WOLF, PHANTOM RIDER, AND SHOOTING STAR ON THE GROUND.
AY! SO YOU THINK AFTER TODAY THESE PROTESTORS WILL STILL BE AGAINST THE WAR ON TERROR?!
THEY'RE AGAINST THE WAR IN IRAQ, ANTONIO! THOSE ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS!
ENOUGH, YOU TWO! Y'ALL CAN TALK POLITICS LATER.
RIGHT NOW, WHAT SAY WE GET ALL THESE PEOPLE TO SAFETY?
FINE! AS LONG AS THE PRESIDENT IS SECURE!
WE CAN CONFIRM THAT THE FIRST LADY HAS BEEN ESCORTED OFF THE PREMISES--
BUT NOT THE C.I.C., THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF! I'M SORRY, GENTLEMEN...
...BUT I'M GONNA HAVE TO ASK YOU TO STEP ASIDE. IF YOU AIN'T GONNA DO YOUR JOB, THEN I'M GONNA HAVE TO--
NO.

I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE. I MADE A PROMISE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE...
...THAT DURING THIS TIME A' WAR, THEY'D BE SAFE AT HOME. SO THE LAST THING I'M GONNA DO...
...IS CUT N' RUN FROM MINE.
BUT, SIR. MR. PRESIDENT--
I'VE DECIDED AN' THAT'S FINAL. BUT DON'T WORRY. I HAVE FAITH IN YOU ALL. FAITH IN THE INITIATIVE.
ALL RIGHT. EVERYONE HERE WHO CAN FLY...
...SADDLE UP!
IF YOUR RATING'S BELOW CLASS 50, YOU'LL BE ISSUED A PULSE RIFLE.
BUT WAR MACHINE, I'VE NEVER--
YOU HAVE THE HIGHEST CADET SCORE ON THE FIRING RANGE, CLOUD 9. YOU'LL DO JUST FINE.
IT'S LIKE PLAYING HALO. JUST POINT AND CLICK.
WAIT. I'M ONLY HERE...
...'CAUSE I WANNA FLY.
THIS BLOWS.
TCH. THIS IS SO UNFAIR.
JUST 'CAUSE WE CAN'T FLY WE'RE GONNA MISS OUT ON ALL THE ACTION?
I HEAR THAT. BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO?
HALF THOSE GUYS HAVE CAPES OR WINGS, AND IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE GONNA GROW A PAIR OF--
OH, YOU'RE GONNA GROW A PAIR ALL RIGHT!

HERE! AVENGERS ISSUE JET-PACKS!
STRAP 'EM ON AND FOLLOW ME!
BUT--
BUT WE HAVEN'T LOGGED IN ANY TIME ON THESE!
I MEAN, DO YOU KNOW HOW TO BANK OR ROLL IN THIS? OR CHANGE THE SPEED OR THE PITCH OR--
PITCH, PITCH, PITCH. THAT'S ALL IT IS WITH YOU, ISN'T IT, BLONDIE?
IT'S A FREAKIN' JETPACK. JUST SWITCH IT ON! WHAT'VE YOU GOT TO LOSE?
YEAH, RIGHT. WHAT SHOW HAVE YOU BEEN WATCHING?
THE JUMP GATE'S FULLY CHARGED! INSTRUCTORS, STAY CLOSE TO YOUR CADETS!
RHODEY, WAIT! WE'VE GOT SOME LATE INTEL.
HYDRA'S BASE SHIP IS USING A NEW FORM OF ENERGY SHIELD. NOTHING'S BEEN GETTING THROUGH...
...BUT THIS PROJECTILE I'VE BEEN WORKING ON, THE "STINGER", MIGHT DO THE TRICK. ITS OUTER SHELL IS A VIBRANIUM ALLOY AND--
I'M ACCESSING THE SPECS NOW, HANK. GOOD DESIGN.
AND YOU COULDN'T HAVE CHOSEN A BETTER PAYLOAD.
ALL RIGHT! EVERYONE--

"...WHEN ALL HELL IS BREAKING LOOSE!"
YEARGH!!
ZRAKK
THAT'S IT! THAT'S ALMOST ALL OF THEM! BEGIN FINAL DESCENT!
WAIT! CHECK THE SENSORS! THERE ARE MORE COMING IN RANGE!
HOW MANY?!
I CAN'T KEEP TRACK OF THEM ALL, I--
HOW MANY?!
TOO MANY TO COUNT!
AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!
SCREW THAT! AVENGERS, KICK THEIR ASS!

The White House
Rose Garden
Washington, D.C.
...WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM, WITH MILITARY DISTINCTION.
FOR YEARS WE'VE CALLED MEN LIKE HANK SUPER HEROES, 'CAUSE THEY HAVE POWERS THE REST OF US DON'T.
BUT TODAY, SERVING AS PART OF OUR PROUD MILITARY...
...HE AND HIS FELLOW INITIATIVE MEMBERS ARE NOW TAKIN' ON THE ROLE OF REAL HEROES!
YOU'RE DOIN' A HECK OF A JOB, PYMMY.
THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT.
Y'KNOW, THIS MIGHT NOT BE SUCH A BAD GIG AFTER ALL.
WELL, WE DID IT, DIDN'T WE? DR. PYM RODE OUT THE BLAST AT SUBATOMIC SIZE...
CHECK IT OUT. EVEN LITTLE MS. FREAK-OUT IS SMILING.
"...AND THE REST OF US GOT AWAY WITHOUT A SCRATCH. DON'T YOU GET IT?
"WE MADE IT THROUGH OUR FIRST MISSION AND NO ONE DIED."
MR. GYRICH? I'VE NEVER BEEN TO THIS LEVEL BEFORE. WHERE'RE YOU TAKING ME?
THIS WAY, TERRANCE.
THIS IS WHERE I GET SHOT, ISN'T IT?
PLEASE. YOU'RE A SHAPE-CHANGER WHO CAN READ MINDS. AS FAR AS POWER SETS GO THAT'S ONE OF OUR "HOLY GRAILS".
I REFUSE TO THROW THAT AWAY. YOU ARE GOING TO LEARN TO CONTROL IT. AND TO THAT END...